164 occurred intermittently in the past, chiefly in Manama and Muharraq. The islands are [744] exposed to the introduction of the disease from neighboring territories, but the enforcement of quarantine regulations has prevented its establishment for several decades.

Other Infections. Although a mild degree of louse infestation occurs among the inhabitants in some congested areas, louse-borne typhus is rarely, if ever, reported. Imported cases of cutaneous leishmaniasis, or Oriental sore, and filariasis are occasionally treated in the local medical institutions, but the insect vectors are not known to be present, and indigenous infections have not been recorded. Guinea worm infection is sometimes seen among persons from Iran, but it is not found in the resident population.

Nutritional Diseases

146 The standards of nutrition have improved 361 materially in the last few years. Under- 511 nutrition is common, but serious defects are seen primarily among the inhabitants of outlying villages and the families of workers from the mainland. Poverty, traditional dietary customs and intestinal parasitism are contributory factors. Subclinical deficiencies in vitamin C are widespread, and scurvy is observed from time to time. Rickets is frequent among the children in the towns. Anemia is prevalent, and hemoglobin levels of 25 to 30 per cent are not unusual among the women.

SUMMARY

619 Bahrain is an independent sheikhdom 131 which consists of an archipelago of 5 main 282 islands situated in the Persian Gulf near the 315 coast of Arabia. It has long been famous as a pearl fishing center, and, since 1932, has enjoyed prosperity as an oil-producing area. 161 It has a heterogeneous population which 162 numbered 109,650 in 1950, including 18,471 795 foreigners. The people are predominantly of 124 mixed Arab and Persian origin, and about 96 per cent are Moslems.

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